

§ 955.10

Replace and *replacement* mean to grant to an applicant a duplicate OSM blaster certificate as a substitute for one that was lost or destroyed.

§ 955.10 Information collection.

The information collection requirements in this part were approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0083. This information is needed to meet the requirements of sections 504, 515, 516, 710 and 719 of Pub. L. 95-87, and will be used by OSM in the certification of blasters. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

§ 955.11 General requirements.

To qualify for an OSM blaster certificate, a person shall:

(a) Be at least 20 years old prior to submitting an application, and at least 21 years old prior to the grant of a certificate;

(b) In the 3 years prior to submitting an application have been qualified and worked as a blaster or the equivalent, or have worked under the direction of a blaster or the equivalent, for the following cumulative length of time:

(1) Certificate issuance—2 years; or

(2) Certificate renewal or reissuance—1 year;

(c) For certificate issuance or reissuance, have received on-the-job training, completed a training course, and obtained satisfactory evidence of having completed training, as provided in § 955.12;

(d) Be competent, possess practical knowledge of blasting techniques, understand the hazards involved in the use of explosives, and exhibit a pattern of conduct consistent with the acceptance of responsibility for blasting operations;

(e) Submit an application as provided in § 955.13;

(f) For certificate issuance or reissuance, pass a written examination as provided in § 955.14;

(g) For a certificate through reciprocity, meet the requirements of § 955.16; and

(h) Not be subject to suspension, revocation or other action under § 955.17.

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§ 955.12 Training.

(a) *On-the-job training.* Except as provided in § 955.14(c) for reexamination, each applicant for the issuance of an OSM blaster certificate who does not qualify as a blaster or the equivalent shall:

(1) Have received on-the-job training, including practical field experience in blasting operations, from a blaster or the equivalent for 2 out of the 3 years preceding the submission of his or her application; and

(2) Have obtained from the blaster or the equivalent, the relevant employer, or other knowledgeable source, satisfactory evidence of having received on-the-job training in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(b) *Training course.* Except as provided in § 955.14(c) for reexamination, each applicant for the issuance or reissuance of an OSM blaster certificate shall:

(1) Within 2 years prior to submitting an application, have completed a training course as follows:

(i) For certificate issuance the course shall cover the technical aspects of blasting operations and State and Federal laws governing the storage, transportation and use of explosives, including the topics specified in § 850.13(b) of this chapter; or

(ii) For certificate reissuance the course shall cover any significant changes that have occurred in the topics specified in § 850.13(b) of this chapter since the applicant last completed a course that was accepted by OSM for the issuance or reissuance of an OSM blaster certificate. If OSM determines that no significant changes have occurred, OSM may waive this requirement; and

(2) Have obtained from the training provider satisfactory evidence that he or she has completed training in accordance with paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(c) *Availability.* OSM shall ensure that courses are available as provided in § 850.13(b) of this chapter to train persons subject to this part who are responsible for the use of explosives in surface coal mining operations.